

comprising orally applying to said aphthous a composition consisting essentially of an immunosuppressive agent and an inhibitor of TNF- $\alpha$ .

✓ 3. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said steroid is selected from cyclosporin, decadron, and triamcinolone acetoneide.

✓ 4. (New) The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein said inhibitor of TNF- $\alpha$  is selected from thalidomide and pentoxifylline.

✓ 5. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein said immunosuppressive agent is FK 506.

✓ 6. (New) The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein said composition is applied orally as an ointment, a gel, or a rinse.

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1.5 + 6 (in pat.)  
4 (in pat.)  
w/a